

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MASERU 01495 071818Z

53

ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 IGA-02 DHA-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 /064 W

----- 030509

R 070920Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6488

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EAID, LT

SUBJECT: ALLEGED THREAT BY REP. ANDREW YOUNG TO CUT OFF AID TO
LESOTHO

1. SOUTH AFRICAN SUNDAY EXPRESS OF DEC. 5 REPORTED IN ARTICLE ENTITLED "YOUNG GETS TOUGH WITH LESOTHO" BY MARTIN SCHNEIDER, POLITICAL EDITOR, THAT REP. YOUNG DECLARED HE WOULD OPPOSE U.S. FOREIGN AID TO LESOTHO BECAUSE OF CHIEF JONATHAN'S "UNDEMOCRATIC PRINCIPLES". THE ARTICLE FURTHER ALLEGES THAT HE SAID "I DON'T LIKE PEOPLE WHO IGNORE ELECTIONS AND DISRESPECT DEMOCRACY. I WOULDN'T HESITATE TO OPPOSE AID FOR LESOTHO BECAUSE OF CONDITIONS HERE."

2. ACCORDING TO JOE MOLEFI, A REPORTER WITH THE MINISTRY OF BROADCASTING, INFORMATION AND PRISONS, GOL OFFICIALS ARE UPSET AND CONCERNED THAT REP. YOUNG'S VIEWS MAY STRONGLY INFLUENCE THE POLICIES OF PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER'S ADMINISTRATION TO THE DETRIMENT OF LESOTHO.

3. OFFICIALS OF GOL HAVE NOT APPROACHED EMBASSY TO LODGE THEIR CONCERN, AND ARE SAVVY ENOUGH ABOUT US POLITICAL SCENE TO UNDERSTAND THAT REP. YOUNG IS BUT ONE VOICE AMONG MANY IN POLICY FORMULATION. IT CAN BE SAFELY ASSUMED, HOWEVER, THAT GOL WILL BE WATCHING, INTER ALIA, THE NEW ADMINISTRATION CLOSELY ON THIS

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PAGE 02 MASERU 01495 071818Z

MATTER.

4. EMBASSY FQRTHER UNDERSTANDS THAT REP. YOUNG IN PRESENCE OF
TDY OFFICER, STATED HE WOULD NOT ATTEND FAREWELL BREAKFAST HOSTED
BY P.M. BECAUSE HE COUGD NOT BRING HIMSELF TO EAT WITH THE MAN
WHO HAD DESTROYED DEMOCRACY IN LESOTHO.

5. ARTICLE BEING POUCHED AF/S.
STOKES

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 07 DEC 1976
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Disposition Reason:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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To: STATE
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